ROBERT KIRKMAN CHARLIE ADLARD DAVE McCAIG

THE WALKING DEAD™

DELUXE

image

26 NOV

TM

FINCH

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ANTERIORMENTE:

Después de encontrar trajes antidisturbios y un depósito de armas en la armería del pabellón A, Rick y Glenn decidieron probar su nuevo equipo y salieron a por gasolina de los coches aparcados en los exteriores de la prisión. Mientras estaban allí, vieron algo que jamás pensaron que volverían a ver—un helicóptero sobrevolando la zona.

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¿SON MILITARES? ES DECIR--¿ES UN HELICÓPTERO *MILITAR*?

NO LO CREO. PODRÍA SER DE LA *POLICÍA*, DE LAS *NOTICIAS*. NO TIENE PINTA DE MILITAR.

NO VIENE HACIA AQUÍ. TENEMOS QUE HACER ALGO PARA LLAMAR SU ATENCIÓN. TENEMOS QUE ENCENDER UN *FUEGO*--UNO *GRANDE*-- Y RÁPIDO.

¿QUÉ PODEMOS *HACER*? ¿QUEMAMOS UNO DE ESTOS COCHES? PODRÍAMOS USAR LA GASOLINA--*ESO* LLAMARÍA SU ATENCIÓN. GLENN, ¿TIENES ALGUNA IDEA?

¡¡RICK, CUIDA-DO!!

¡DIOS!

¡¡HLLLUNGH!!

WHOP!

HUMMNGG.

WHROKK!

LOS *TRAJES*, ¿EH?

SÍ--NO ESTÁ MAL.

ESPERA--
¿ADÓNDE HA IDO EL HELICÓPTERO? ¿DÓNDE ESTÁ?

¡ALLÍ!

OH, MIERDA--
¿VA A *ATERRIZAR*?

NO--¡CREO QUE SE VA A *ESTRELLAR*!

MIRA DONDE CAE. YO IRÉ A BUSCAR LA MOTO--NO PUEDE ESTAR A MÁS DE UN PAR DE MILLAS DE AQUÍ-- PODEMOS IR HASTA DONDE SE ESTRELLE. TENEMOS QUE AVERIGUAR QUIÉN *ES* ESA GENTE.

TENEMOS QUE SABER DE DÓNDE *VIENEN*.

VE A DECIRLES ADÓNDE VAMOS MIENTRAS ARRANCO UNO DE ESTOS COCHES. SI HAY ALGÚN SUPERVIVIENTE, NO PODREMOS TRAERLOS DE VUELTA AQUÍ EN UNA MOTO.

CIERTO.

BIEN PENSADO.

¿QUÉ ESTÁS *HACIENDO*? ¿QUÉ HA PASADO? ¡¿GLENN ESTÁ *BIEN*?!

¡¿NO LO HAS *VISTO*?!

¿EL *QUÉ*?

EL *HELICÓPTERO*. PASÓ VOLANDO A LO LEJOS-- LUEGO SE ESTRELLÓ. GLENN Y YO VAMOS A IR A COMPROBARLO... DEBERÍAMOS PODER LLEGAR ALLÍ Y VOLVER ANTES DE QUE ANOCHEZCA. SOLO QUERÍA AVISARTE PARA QUE SE LO DIGAS A *LORI*.

¿UN *HELICÓPTERO*? ¡NO *JODAS*! ¿ERA MILITAR?

NO LO CREO. NO ME PUEDO CREER QUE NO LO HAYAS *VISTO*.

LO HE VISTO.

VAMOS.

¿CÓMO HAS--?

¿CREÍAS QUE NO LA ENCONTRARÍA SI LA ESCONDÍAS EN LA CARAVANA DE DALE? **POR FAVOR.**

HACE UNA SEMANA QUE TENGO LA ESPADA. PUEDES **CONFIAR** EN MÍ.

ESTOY BASTANTE SEGURO DE QUE ESO PRUEBA **LO CONTARIO.**

NOS OCUPAREMOS DE ESO **MÁS TARDE.** TENEMOS QUE **IRNOS.** SOBREVIVÍ AHÍ FUERA YO SOLA. SOY TU MEJOR BAZA PARA LLEGAR ALLÍ Y VOLVER **DE UNA PIEZA.** ME NECESITAS--Y ME VENDRÍA BIEN EL **EJERCICIO.**

NO VAMOS A **CORRER** HASTA ALLÍ.

¿ESTÁIS **LISTOS,** TÍOS?

¿QUIERES QUE YO VAYA?

NO--SOLO DILE A LORI Y A LOS DEMÁS LO QUE ESTÁ PASANDO Y MANTENLOS A SALVO. VOLVEREMOS **ESTA NOCHE**--Y PUEDE QUE TENGAMOS **INVITADOS.**

¿HAS *VISTO* ESO?

¿EL QUÉ? ¿QUÉ ERA?

MICHONNE ENTRÓ CORRIENDO A SU CELDA, COGIÓ SU ***PONCHO*** Y VOLVIÓ CORRIENDO AFUERA. HACÍA TIEMPO QUE NO VEÍA A NADIE MOVERSE ***TAN*** RÁPIDO.

ESTOY SEGURA DE QUE NO ES NADA. ¿ESTÁ ***LLOVIENDO?***

NO LO SÉ. SUPONGO QUE NOS HABRÍA ***DICHO*** ALGO SI FUERA IMPORTANTE.

¿QUÉ HAY DE ***TI?*** ¿TE VAS A MUDAR AL PABELLÓN A DENTRO DE POCO?

CREO QUE NO. ¿Y ***TÚ?***

NO. AHORA VAMOS A TENER TANTO ESPACIO AQUÍ QUE NO VEO ***RAZÓN*** PARA HACERLO. DALE Y ANDREA SE MUDARÁN ALLÍ CON LOS GEMELOS. GLENN Y MAGGIE SE IRÁN ALLÍ PARA ALEJARSE DE HERSHEL-- SI ES QUE ÉL LO PERMITE.

NO, CREO QUE SOLO NOS REPARTIREMOS POR AQUÍ. TRASLADAREMOS ALGO MÁS DE MOBILIARIO A LAS CELDAS QUE NOS RODEAN. TENDREMOS UN SALÓN, UN DORMITORIO PARA CARL, COSAS ASÍ.

¿POR QUÉ ***TÚ*** NO TE MUDAS?

ELLOS SE VAN A MUDAR ALLÍ. NO EN PAREJA-- PERO LOS DOS SE MUDAN. TYREESE Y MICHONNE.

PREFIERO ESTAR DONDE ELLOS NO ESTÉN.

ESTARÍAS MÁS CERCA DE LA BIBLIOTE-CA.

NO VALE LA PENA.

HAZME CASO.

NO CREO REALMENTE QUE IMPORTE DONDE VIVAMOS CADA UNO. VAMOS A TENER MUCHO ESPACIO EN CUALQUIER PARTE. PODRÍAMOS HABERNOS REPARTIDO MÁS POR ESTE PABELLÓN, PERO CREO QUE DESPUÉS DE PASAR TANTO TIEMPO APRETUJADOS EN ESA CARAVANA, UNA CELDA POR FAMILIA PARECÍA SUFICIENTE.

AHORA LAS COSAS SON DISTINTAS. CREO QUE TODOS EMPEZAMOS A SENTIRNOS MÁS SEGUROS AQUÍ. CREO QUE INCLUSO CARL PODRÍA DORMIR EN SU CUARTO CUANDO LO ARREGLEMOS. Y CON TODOS LOS MUEBLES DE LAS OFICINAS DEL PABELLÓN A, DEBERÍAMOS PODER HACER QUE ESTE SITIO PAREZCA ACOGEDOR.

...Y SI PODEMOS CONSEGUIR QUE FUNCIONE EL GENERADOR-- BUENO...

OH, LO SÉ. PODRÍA LEER DENTRO--POR LA NOCHE. PODRÍA LEER EN LA CAMA ANTES DE ACOSTARME EN VEZ DE ESTAR AFUERA SUJETANDO LAS PÁGINAS POR EL VIENTO.

NO SOLO ESO, SINO QUE TAMBIÉN HAY DVDS EN LA BIBLIOTECA. NO QUIERO QUE TE EMOCIONES DEMASIADO, PERO PODRÍAMOS LLEGAR A VER UNA PELI O DOS.

¡¿DE VERDAD?!

¿CÓMO HAS PODIDO ARRANCAR ESTE TRASTO? LAS LLAVES NO ESTABAN PUESTAS, ¿VERDAD?

¿EN SERIO CREÍAS QUE ***SOLO*** ERA UN REPARTIDOR DE PIZZAS?

¿QUIERES DECIR--?

ROBÉ UNOS CUANTOS COCHES EN SU DÍA--SÍ. NUNCA FUE ALGO QUE ***DISFRUTÉ.*** BUENO, ***NO ES CIERTO.*** ERA DIVERTIDO... PERO NUNCA ***QUISE*** HACERLO. APRENDÍ EN EL INSTITUTO, POR DIVERSIÓN... PARA PUTEAR A LOS AMIGOS Y TAL.

SOLO LO HACÍA PARA PAGAR EL ***ALQUILER,*** CUANDO NO LLEGABA A FIN DE MES. SOLO LO HACÍA PORQUE ***TENÍA*** QUE HACERLO.

COMPRENDO QUE ERES POLI Y ESO. O, YA SABES... ***ERAS*** POLI. ESPERO QUE ESTO NO CAMBIE TU OPINIÓN DE MÍ...

ERAN OTROS TIEMPOS.

OTRO ***MUNDO.***

JODER, YO ROBÉ UN PAR DE COCHES PATRULLA DE MI CUARTEL PARA PODER LLEGAR A ATLANTA Y BUSCAR A LORI.

ESTOY VIVIENDO RODEADA DE ***CRIMINALES.***

¿VES DÓNDE SE ESTRELLÓ? ¿SABES ADÓNDE VAMOS?

SOLO SIGO EL RASTRO DE HUMO QUE SALE DE LA ARBOLEDA--ALLÍ ES DONDE CAYÓ. ¿LO VES?

¿DÓNDE?

ALLÍ.

¿TENEMOS BASTANTE COMBUSTIBLE PARA LLEGAR?

TENEMOS UN POCO MENOS DE MEDIO DEPÓSITO. ES **MÁS** QUE SUFICIENTE PARA LLEGAR ALLÍ **Y** VOLVER. NO DEBERÍAMOS TENER PROBLEMAS.

HAY MUCHOS CAMINANTES POR AQUÍ-- ES CASI COMO SI SE DIRIGIERAN A LA PRISIÓN, COMO SI **SUPIERAN** QUE ESTÁ ALLÍ.

SÍ--AHORA QUE HACE ***MÁS CALOR,*** EMPIEZAN A AMONTONARSE EN LA VALLA EXTERIOR. ESTABA PENSANDO--YA QUE TENEMOS ESTOS TRAJES, UN PAR DE NOSOTROS PODRÍA SALIR Y HACER LIMPIEZA UNA VEZ AL DÍA A PARTIR DE MAÑANA.

AHORA NO TARDARÍAMOS ***MUCHO*** TIEMPO EN LIBRARNOS DE LOS QUE HAY FUERA. Y DESPUÉS DE ***MATARLOS,*** PODRÍAMOS LIMITARNOS A MATAR A LOS RECIÉN LLEGADOS QUE SE ACUMULEN.

SÍ--ESO TIENE SENTIDO. ANTES NO ERA UNA PRIORIDAD Y PARECÍA UN DESPERDICIO DE MUNICIÓN. MUNICIÓN QUE NO ***TENÍAMOS.***

APUÑALARLOS A TRAVÉS DE LA VALLA LOS DIEZMABA UN POCO, PERO NADIE LO HACÍA DE MANERA REGULAR. SERÍA SEGURO HACERLO CON LOS ***TRAJES.***

QUIZÁS MAGGIE Y YO EMPECEMOS A HACERLO CUANDO REGRESEMOS--O SI ELLA NO QUIERE HACERLO, CON OTIS--O TAL VEZ BILLY.

HOY ***SE MORÍA*** POR TENER UNA EXCUSA PARA PROBARSE UNO DE ESOS TRAJES.

MIERDA, GLENN. ***MIRA.***

EL CAMINO ***NO*** VA DONDE TENEMOS QUE IR.

MALDITA SEA, YA SABÍA YO QUE TENDRÍA QUE HABER PILLADO EL TODOTERRENO.

THUMP!

ESTO SERÁ DIVERTIDO.

PARECE QUE VA A SER UN VIAJE *MOVIDO*.

GRACIAS POR *AVISAR*.

NO--*UGH*--NO SERÁ TAN TERRIBLE SI *AMINORAS* UN POCO.

ME PARECE BUENA IDEA.

¿ASÍ ESTÁ ***MEJOR?*** NO LLEGAREMOS MUCHO ANTES QUE SI FUÉRAMOS ***CORRIENDO,*** PERO AL MENOS NO SE NOS REVOLVERÁN LOS SESOS.

TÚ LLÉVANOS HASTA ALLÍ.

VALE--AHORA SOLO TENGO QUE SUPERAR ESTA--

OH, MIERDA.

PUEDE QUE IR TAN DESPACIO ***NO*** HAYA SIDO UNA BUENA IDEA. CREO QUE ESTAMOS ***ATASCADOS.***

VALE--- ***JODER.***

AHORA IREMOS ***A PIE.***

SI ALGUIEN HA SOBREVIVIDO A ESE ACCIDENTE, ESPERO QUE PUEDA ***CAMINAR***-- PORQUE NO ME ***APETECE*** CARGAR CON ELLOS HASTA LA PRISIÓN.

DADO QUE VUESTRO PADRE... YA NO ESTÁ... **ANDREA** Y YO CUIDAREMOS DE VOSOTROS A PARTIR DE AHORA. VAMOS A ASEGURARNOS DE QUE ESTÁIS **ALIMENTADOS** Y **SEGUROS**, Y DE QUE TENÉIS COSAS QUE **HACER**.

INCLUSO QUEREMOS **ENSEÑAROS** ALGUNAS COSAS... O POR LO MENOS LO INTENTAREMOS.

ASÍ ES, NIÑOS--Y MAÑANA OS TRASLADAREMOS A LA OTRA ALA DE LA PRISIÓN PARA QUE PODÁIS TENER UNA HABITACIÓN PARA VOSOTROS SOLOS AL LADO DE **NUESTRO** NUEVO CUARTO.

¿QUÉ OS PARECE **ESO?**

POR SUPUESTO, SI **QUERÉIS**--PODÉIS QUEDAROS EN EL CUARTO CONMIGO Y **DALE**. NO QUEREMOS MOLESTAROS--SE HARÁ LO QUE PREFIRÁIS.

¿SOIS NUESTROS NUEVOS PAPÁ Y MAMÁ?

EN REALIDAD NO--PERO, SI LO DESEÁIS--PODÉIS LLAMARNOS ASÍ SI ES QUE **QUERÉIS**.

¿QUÉ VAMOS A *HACER?* EN CUANTO ENTREMOS EN EL BOSQUE, NO PODREMOS *VER* EL HUMO. ¿CÓMO VAMOS A *DAR CON* ESE TRASTO?

YA CASI HEMOS LLEGADO-- NO DEBERÍA SER *MUY* DIFÍCIL. TENDRÍA QUE PREOCUPARTE MÁS LO QUE HAY *EN* ESTE BOSQUE. PODRÍA APARECER CUALQUIER COSA AL OTRO LADO DE CUALQUIER ÁRBOL.

ESTAD ALERTA-- DEBERÍAIS *OLERLOS* ANTES DE QUE SE ACERQUEN LO BASTANTE COMO PARA MORDER.

INTENTEMOS MOVERNOS RÁPIDO-- OSCURECERÁ ANTES DE QUE *VOLVAMOS...* ME GUSTARÍA ESTAR LO MÁS CERCA POSIBLE DE LA PRISIÓN CUANDO SE HAGA DE NOCHE.

ESO *YO* NO TE LO DISCUTIRÉ.

SHHH.

THUNK!

¿A QUÉ TE *DEDICABAS* EXACTAMENTE ANTES? JAMÁS PENSÉ QUE SE GANARA MUCHO DINERO SIENDO *NINJA*.

¿TODAVÍA CONTRATABAN *SAMURÁIS*?

ERA *ABOGADA*.

NO ME SORPRENDE NI LO MÁS MÍNIMO.

SE DAN MUCHAS PUÑALADAS EN EL BUFETE. TIENE *SENTIDO*.

PRACTIQUÉ *ESGRIMA* CUANDO ERA PEQUEÑA. LO RETOMÉ EN LA UNIVERSIDAD--ERA BASTANTE BUENA. FUE UNA BUENA FORMA DE LIBERAR TENSIONES DURANTE MIS *DIECISIETE AÑOS* O ASÍ EN LA UNIVERSIDAD.

AL HIJO DEL VECINO, UN ESTUDIANTE DE SECUNDARIA UN POCO IDIOTA, LE FLIPABAN LAS ESPADAS. TENÍA DE TODAS LAS CLASES, LAS TENÍA BIEN AFILADAS. SOLÍA CORTAR LAS RAMAS DE LA VALLA ENTRE NUESTROS PATIOS. OS JURO QUE MATÓ A NUESTRO GATO--NUNCA LO ENCONTRAMOS... PERO SÉ QUE FUE *ÉL*.

CUANDO TODO SE FUE A LA MIERDA--EL PRIMER LUGAR AL QUE FUI FUE SU CASA, COGÍ ESTA ESPADA. ERA MÁS FÁCIL QUE ENCONTRAR UNA *PISTOLA*... Y *NO* LLAMA LA ATENCIÓN.

TE ENTIENDO MUY BIEN. YO TENGO ESTE HACHA--TYREESE TIENE SU PEQUEÑO MARTILLO.

SERÁ MEJOR QUE NOS ACOSTUMBREMOS, YA SABES... DUDO QUE HAYA ALGUIEN POR AHÍ HACIENDO BALAS *NUEVAS*.

DEBERÍAS HABLAR CON ÉL ALGÚN DÍA.

CON TYREESE, QUIERO DECIR.

¿QUÉ HAS DICHO?

¿LO DICES *EN SERIO*?

¡RUAGGH!

SLAASH!

FWUMP!

CREO QUE DEBERÍAS HABLAR CON *TYREESE.*

THUNK!

UH... CIERTO.

¿POR QUÉ DICES *ESO?*

SÉ LO QUE LOS DOS PRETENDÉIS. AÚN SEGUÍS CABREADOS EL UNO CON EL OTRO--YA NO SOIS ***AMIGOS,*** PERO OS HABLÁIS, AMBOS ACTUÁIS COMO SI LAS COSAS HUBIERAN VUELTO A SER COMO ***ANTES.***

Y ***NO*** LO SON.

EL CASO ES QUE TYREESE ESTABA MUY UNIDO A ***DOS*** PERSONAS HACE UNA SEMANA--CAROL Y ***TÚ.*** AHORA HABLA ***CONMIGO,*** PERO SERÉ LA PRIMERA EN DECIRTE QUE EN REALIDAD NO NOS CONOCEMOS TAN BIEN.

SE DISCULPARÍA SI NO FUERA TAN CONDENADAMENTE ***TESTARUDO.*** NO PUEDO EVITAR PENSAR QUE SE PODRÍA DECIR LO MISMO DE TI. LOS DOS SOIS DEMASIADO PARECIDOS PARA ESTAR ENFADADOS ENTRE VOSOTROS ETERNAMENTE.

TAL VEZ.

AUNQUE, TENGO QUE DECIR QUE--NO SÉ ***POR QUÉ*** ME TENGO QUE DISCULPAR. FUE ***ÉL*** QUIEN ***EMPEZÓ*** LA PELEA Y TODO LO DEMÁS.

PERO NO LE ODIO... DIOS SABE QUE NOS LLEVAMOS BIEN DURANTE UN TIEMPO. DE TODAS FORMAS, LO QUE OCURRIÓ ENTRE TÚ, ÉL Y CAROL NO ES ASUNTO MÍO.

QUIZÁS HABLE CON ÉL MAÑANA.

LO AGRADECE-RÍAMOS.

CHICOS-- MIRAD.

SE VE EL HUMO OTRA VEZ.

¡CREO QUE NOS ESTAMOS ***ACERCAN-DO!***

¡MALDITA SEA!

¡ME ESTÁ HACIENDO PASAR POR ESTO *OTRA VEZ!*

LORI, CÁLMATE--*NO PUEDE* SER BUENO PARA EL BEBÉ. RICK ESTÁ BIEN--ESTOY SEGURA DE QUE VOLVERÁ PRONTO.

¿EN SERIO? NO HA *LLAMADO*--NO PUEDO *VERLE*--*NO TENGO MANERA* DE SABER *CUÁNDO* VOLVERÁ--O *SI* ES QUE VUELVE--*¡OTRA VEZ!* ME HA HECHO ESTO *DEMASIADAS PUTAS VECES.*

¡PODRÍA HABER ENVIADO A OTROS A COMPROBAR UN *ESTÚPIDO HELICÓPTERO* ESTRELLADO! ¡¡NO TENÍA POR QUÉ IR EN PERSONA--!!

¿ESTÁS *BIEN*--HA SIDO EL *BEBÉ?* ¡¿QUÉ TE DUELE?!

NO ES--NADA--YA SE ME PASA.

ESTO--¿PUEDES IR A POR CARL Y SOPHIA DE LA CELDA DE DALE Y ANDREA? LLEVAN CON ELLOS MUCHO TIEMPO. TENGO--TENGO QUE PREPARAR A CARL PARA QUE SE ACUESTE DENTRO DE POCO.

¡OH!

¡AY!

SÍ, IRÉ A POR ELLOS--EN UN MINUTO.

QUERÍA, *UH...* PREGUNTARTE ALGO ANTES DE QUE VUELVAN.

¿QUÉ PASA, CAROL?

QUIERO *CASARME* CONTIGO.

NO SOLO *CONTIGO*, ENTIENDES--CONTIGO *Y* RICK. TÚ ESCÚCHAME--NO ES TAN DESCABELLADO COMO PARECE. ES DECIR, HE ESTADO PENSANDO EN LO QUE DIJO RICK, YA SABES--LO DE QUE LAS COSAS *NUNCA* VOLVERÁN A SER COMO ERAN ANTES Y QUE TENEMOS QUE REHACER NUESTRAS VIDAS.

TIENE SENTIDO PARA MÍ. OS QUIERO A *LOS DOS* Y *TODOS* JUNTOS PODRÍAMOS CRIAR A CARL, A SOPHIA Y AL NUEVO BEBÉ. SÉ QUE AHORA MISMO PARECE RARO, PERO NO TENEMOS QUE SEGUIR LAS *VIEJAS* REGLAS, PODEMOS CREAR UNAS *NUEVAS.*

PODRÍAMOS SER *FELICES* TODOS JUNTOS.

ALLÍ ESTÁ--¡¿LO VEIS?!

PARECE QUE PUDIERON ATERRIZAR EN LA ORILLA DEL ARROYO--LO QUE SEGURAMENTE REDUJO EL IMPACTO.

¿VEIS A ALGUIEN?

NO--AQUÍ NO HAY ***NADIE***... PERO ESO NO TIENE ***SENTIDO.*** NO PUEDEN HABER SALTADO, ¿VERDAD?

NO LO ***CREO***-- PERO QUIÉN SABE. ¿CREES QUE PUEDES SUBIR AHÍ? HABRÍA QUE VER SI HAY ALGUNA MANERA DE AVERIGUAR DE QUIÉN ES ESTE HELICÓPTERO O DE DÓNDE ***VINO.***

CLARO-- PUEDO TREPAR HASTA AHÍ.

¡PARA!

QUÉ-- ¡¿QUÉ PASA?!

MIRA ABAJO. HUELLAS--UN MONTÓN DE ELLAS.

¿QUÉ SIGNIFICA ESO?

QUIENESQUIERA QUE ESTUVIERAN EN EL HELICÓPTERO-- ALGUIEN *SE LOS LLEVÓ.*

ALGUIEN QUE ESTABA *MÁS CERCA* QUE *NOSOTROS...*

LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT: **WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM**

Hello, readers! Amanda here. Just like that, our hopes of a functioning helicopter have been dashed, though what good would a pilotable helicopter been for this group, really? There's enough trouble happening on the ground! After some very emotionally fraught issues, I appreciated the humorous moments in this one. Especially Michonne's not-so-subtle nudge for Rick to chat with Tyreese while hack-slashing her way through zombies. Effective – just like this transition into some classic Letter Hacks. Catch you back here next month for what I hear is a big issue. Don't miss it!

Welcome to Walking Dead 26. Big stuff is on the horizon, folks. The next few issues will set the stage for the next couple years of this book. Big, BIG stuff... so pay attention.

Charlie and Cliff are doing a bang-up job on interiors and now covers as well. Looking sharp, fellas. Just wanted to get them a shout out. Young mister Rathburn is also doing a great job on back covers, which he'll be handling for the next bit of issues at least.

Now, let's answer some mail.

Hey Kirkman,

Merl Key and I both shop at Comic Cave in Columbus. He's gotten like four letters printed in Walking Dead so far; I only have one. Therefore, in a pathetic attempt to try to make up some ground on his record, I am going to send you two letters this time around. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but you gotta give me credit for the originality. It's better than the typical "OMG when is Rick gonna die, [insert lame joke about Cho's Zombie King here]" kind of letter. If you don't have room to print both, feel free to substitute one of mine for Merl's. BRB.

--Sam Kirkland

I can't believe I'm printing this.

Hi again Kirkman,

I'm still loving the book! №23 was amazing as usual. Very brutal. You'll also be pleased to know that I ordered the HC even though I have most of the issues and TPBs already. I can't wait for the Omnibus.

I gotta give a shout-out to Mike at Comic Cave for forcing me to buy the first WD TPB. Usually I can resist his pleas for me to buy something, but on that life-changing day I couldn't. Thanks Mike!

Really loving Invincible; that MTU issue was superb. And to all you readers out there: be sure to check out my reviews at HeroRealm.com (shameless plug!). Our Best of 2005 column in 'Lowdown & Dirty' should be up over the holidays, and I have a sneaking suspicion that a Kirkman book will be there.

And I almost forgot: someone the other day actually mistook my name for "Kirkman" and I had to tell them, "no, it's not like the superhero. It's KirkLAND, like the country."

That was a joke, BTW. Kirkland is still a much better name.

Don't ever stop writing this book!

--Sam Kirkland

I beg to differ. Kirkland always sounded funny to me growing up. When people would mistake my last name for "Kirkland" I would think: "is that a real name?" So in closing... you are the one with the lame name. Mine is totally sweet.

Dear Kirkman,

Now normally I complain about issue long fights (Bendis, Liefeld, etc), but issue 23 rocked. Very much like a real fight, ending with both combatants on the ground, exhausted and hurt. When I got the issue, I turned right to the letter's column and saw the last page of the book. It looks like (if you didn't see the preceding page) Rick shot himself in the head. Oh, and thanks for killing Allen.

1. Are you the one that comes up with the words representing sounds? WHUD! WRAMM! And my favorite, THOOM! Those are great.

I come up with them, but most of them are old comic book stand-bys... it's not like I invented them. Although, I think I'm the only person to ever use "Brakka-rakka- thakka-dakka-doom!" Which was over in Invincible or Brit. I like sound effects.

2. Do you think that Dr Logan and Bub are still out there together somewhere?

Different universe... and I don't own those guys. Dead Dog Comics is doing a Day of the Dead book with BUB in it. So if you're curious as to what's going on with that guy--give it a look.

3. When will we see a city again? That's the best stuff. Abandoned military equipment, papers blowing through the streets declaring "The Dead Walk!", and all that delicious carnage you want to see in a zombie film.

I too am anxious to get back to a city with the story... so we'll see one sooner or later.

4. OK, besides Romero's stuff, what are some of your favorite Zombie films? Ever see Plague of the Zombies? Did you hate Resident Evil 2 too?

I'm way to smitten with Milla Jovovich to ever hate anything she was in. Was Resident Evil 2 silly? Maybe a little bit... but I loved every minute of it. Never seen Plague of the Zombies. As far as other non- Romero zombie flicks... you've all got to go find a copy of "STACY" it's an Asian zombie movie that is about the most bizarre zombie flick I've ever seen. Not great, actually, not even good, but it's gory as all heck and it's just bizarre. I should probably publicly thank Mark Englert for turning me on to that...

5. Where are all the themed zombies? Who know, the clowns, bikers, etc? Lately it's just slightly obscured or shade-like figures in the background. Another reason to get out of the prison. Or, let zombies in...

Personally, I always hated the clown, Santa, cheerleader zombies in all the Romero flicks. I mean, they'd be there, sure... but what are the odds? If everyone in my neighborhood suddenly turned into zombies and starting walking out of their houses... they'd be in normal everyday clothes, at least 95% of them would be. The other 5% would be naked. Like me.

So the Invincible and Spidey team-up in MTU was great! I'd write to that book, but you aren't printing letters in it... I can't freakin wait until Marvel Zombies. I think I said something about it in another letter, but I can't remember those things. Then they get printed late and I'm askin about Land of the Dead or something after you've talked about it over and over. I can't complain though, these issues are coming out quick again. Thanks for killing Allen. Didn't even give that guy a chance to get his zombie close-up. Good job!

THOOM!
Chris Pitts

Glad you're digging this stuff, Chris.

Yo, Kirkman,

Just got issue 23 today. It was great, but not the best thus far I have to say. Almost every issue until now has been better than the one before it, but I have to say 22 topped the all out rick/tyreese brawl. The issue was still brilliant, just not more brilliant than the one before it.

I also noticed the two page spread formed by the last page of 22 and the first page of 23. It was a great touch by Kirkman (I assume it was his idea) and an even better job on the art by Charlie and Cliff. It's kinda nice to think it will be a straight up two page spread with no covers or letter pages or anything in between when the trade comes out, but I also like that you need to buy both singles to see the whole image.

It was my idea, but it's only fair to point out that I get it from Erik Larsen. He did it in-between Savage Dragon 30 and 31. I think he was the first to ever do that.

On another note, thank you for killing Allen (even after you said not to count him out just yet last issue-- you bastard!). I was hoping you would make that move, because if he lived, the characters would assume that cutting off his leg healed him, and go around cutting off limbs every time they got bit. This would give them an easy way out if they got bitten, and almost no one would die of zombie bites, which could get boring.

And Charlie, I especially liked the panel where Rick falls over the railing in the prison and Tyreese just misses grabbing him. This was the best panel in the issue in my opinion. It was really dramatic and very realistic. Let's not forget the rest of the team either- Cliff is doing an amazing job, as usual (where do you find these guys, Kirkman?), and good ol' Rus really makes the word bubbles pop off the page.

I find them the same place everyone else finds them. The bus station.

Now for questions. I know you love those.

1. Rick is gonna be okay, right? At least physically if not mentally? I mean, his hand is already beat to crap, give him a break.

I might.

2. Why the hell was Glenn just standing there the whole issue telling them to stop but not doing anything about it?

He's a little guy--he's not about to get in-between them. He doesn't want to get his ass handed to him in front of his girl. Who does?

3. I know, I know. The covers represent an idea,

not what actually happens. still, it bugs me that you showed Tyreese beat up on the cover when Rick was the one who really got his ass whooped. Why no Rick on the cover?

Rick is on all the covers, just about. And he was pretty big on the cover to 24. So if he had been on the cover to 23 also, it would have looked weird. I'm keeping Rick off covers for a while.

4. Alright, it's long enough already. When is the freakin' baby gonna be born?

Lori is six or seven months pregnant right now (I'd have to look in the issue to be sure). So we're two or three months off, book time, not real time. It will be SOON, that's all I'll say.

5. Will we ever find out who Michonne was talking to in 21?

Of course.

6. Why do the characters seem to be ignoring the mass zombie problem? They already have a good system to kill them- if they just killed ten a day or something they would be okay.

It's been discussed in the book, cleaning off the fence and such. It'll be easier now that they have the suits. They've been busy. Give them time.

7. Why is Patricia getting it so easy? Rick has punished all the other wrongdoers severely. Is it because she's a girl?

It's more because there isn't really a point. What could you possibly do to punish these people?

Okay, I'm done now. Thanks for putting out a great comic every month (I give you credit for trying) and keeping me going back to the comic shop for more. Long after the aliens hit the scene, I'll be kissing your ass in letters like this.

Jackson Buckley

Man, it's going to be totally cool when there're aliens in this book. I've been doing all kinds of research.

Dear Robert

RE: Issue №23

Jesus Fuck. Even by TWD standards, that shook things up. Rarely does a comic leave you feeling slightly out of breath, but the pace of this one left me exhausted.

Not as knackered as Rick, though. He's not a well guy.

Can't wait for the next one. Fortnight, you say? Great.

Every other bugger is plugging their favorite comics shop, so here's a mention for Gosh! in London, where this week one of the staff, when asked what was out, kept plugging 'a great issue of The Walking Dead'.

He wasn't wrong.

Regards,
Mark Clapham

Tell everyone at GOSH! I said thanks.

Rick has got to be getting sicker from his chest wound in issue one! Tyreese knocking him around probably isn't helping much! I am all for the police copter from Dawn of the Dead landing at the prision! Have you seen Undead? More like Unwatchable! Now I understand the whole bit about the alien landing jokes in the letters page because of Undead!

Actually, I think those started before I saw Undead. Also, they're certainly not a way of making fun of that movie. I LOVED that movie. It's got some really cool stuff in it.

Land of the Dead dvd is cool, especially with the extra about Shaun of the Dead meeting George Romero. Why don't you cameo in a zombie movie?

I applied but they never called me back. I think it's my prison time.

When is the script book coming out? I appreciate everyone's work on catching the comic up to schedule—when the hell do you have time to sleep? Loved Invincible/Spider-Man in Team-Up! I cannot wait for the rest of the story in Invincible! Will Rick cameo in your Marvel zombie book? Love your work and thanks again for the good reading material!!!!

Bobby W. Chamberlain

The script book is in stores now. Rick will not be appearing in Marvel Zombies. Thanks for the kind words, Bobby.

Robert,

I am looking forward to seeing you at San Diego Comic Con next year. :) Just read issue 23 of WD and thought it was the best one yet!!! A couple comments/questions:

1. Any thoughts on Showtime's Masters Of Horror?

I'll be buying the DVD. I don't have Showtime.

2. Any thoughts on the new Horror Channel (which I believe was supposed to launch on October 31st and air UNCUT films but was delayed for "technical reasons.")

If I got it, I'd watch it like the dickens.

3. I am EXTREMELY excited about Tony Moore drawing Vertigo's The Exterminators.

Peace.
Andrew Rootz
Chesterfield Missouri

Letter Hacks,

So I was reading the Walking Dead thread on Comic Book Resources a little bit ago, and a user was commenting on how he thinks the book has been neglecting the zombie aspect of this zombie book for the last several issues. Then something dawned on me.

The zombies have become sort of a non-issue in the comic as of late. Yeah, the story's always been about the people who survived the zombie apocalypse and not the zombies, but the zombies were always there. Until the people moved into the prison, at which point Rick and company pretty much stopped thinking about the zombies because they were all trapped on the outside of the fence. And that's why the book hasn't had much zombie action. We as readers are starting to become a little too comfortable with a horde of zombies outside of a chain link fence because the characters are doing just the same. The absence of the zombie problem from the book is symbolic of the absence of the zombie problem from the minds of the characters. A bonafide literary device in a comic book? Tell me it isn't true!

And of course, we all know what happens when the survivors of a zombie apocalypse start to ignore the problem...

Holy smokes! You'd think I'd planned all this from the beginning. (wink)

Issue №23 was great as usual, but I do have a suggestion that would help me (and I'm sure some other readers) out a bit when digging into a new issue. The story always transitions pretty seamlessly from one issue to the next. I remember when I was reading the first trade I had no clue where one issue started and the next ended. No definitive end to the action in the previous issue means it takes me a bit to remember exactly where the last issue left off, especially when it was six weeks ago or more. Maybe you could put a "Previously In..." page at the beginning of each issue, as a replacement for the character guide at the end of each issue (which really doesn't need to be every issue anyway). Even just a smaller version of the last page of the previous issue, along with a few mugshots of the characters that'll be showing up in the issue would be great. You don't need to go into a long explanation of everything that's happened in the series like Marvel always feels the need to do, but a short recap would be appreciated. I'm sure new readers would appreciate that as well, instead of just starting with a page of Tyreese punching Rick in the face for some reason.

Hm. I think I'll start doing that with this issue. Good idea.

BTW, the Invincible/Spider-Man MTU was one of my favorite comics of the year. Doesn't seem worth writing to the Invincible or MTU letters page just to tell you that, but it had me rolling with laughter all the way through. Great job, man.

Aaron Stege

That's cool. It appears this letters column is the place to talk about that book anyway. Hey, if Brian can talk about Avengers in Powers I can talk about Team-Up here. Although, we all know he does that because he doesn't have enough mail to fill up that letters column. The hack.

Dear TWD,
Great issue. However, I found myself more intrigued by the side stories (Allen dying and Carol living) than the whole fight and subsequent fainting. It will be very interesting now to see where Rick and Tyreese's relationship goes from here.

The overall story looks very much like the story of Rick Grimes and his slow, but eventual, "turn to the dark side". I hope it is. But then again I'm even more excited by the cover of №25! In most zombie-apocalypse stories the remnants of government seem to be worse than the plague itself. I'm hoping for something different (like what I keep hinting at, the "turn" of Rick, though I will not be surprised if the "military" takes over the prison, and at first seem "evil") and that this might take us into a larger epic struggle of survival for all of mankind. It will be interesting, again, to see how Rick interprets his responsibility to the group when others arrive who are equally capable, if not more so, of protecting them.

One constructve criticism, I'm not all for the big list of characters at the end of the book. You're selling bi-annual TPBs (plus the upcoming hard-cover) so any reader can catch up on all that information much easier than comic-fans could in the past. It was great the first time I saw it, but with each issue I'm liking it less and less.

I would rather see that space dedicated to either Team TWD (specifically regarding TWD) or fan-art, upcoming script previews for TWD, previews of other work by Robert and Team TWD, or a

detailed background of an individual character. This is just some random items flung against the wall.

Sincerely,
Merl Key

Thanks for the kind words, Merl. I'll think of something on the character bios. For now, though... they're not in this issue.

Kirkman,

I just read issue 23, and I think it may be your best yet! Not a zombie in sight, but still lots of great action! The fight between Rick and Ty was great. The cover set it up very well, and the first page was a great way to start. It'll be interesting to see how the rest of the group reacts to the info that came out during the fight (i.e. Ty killing Chris and Rick killing Dex). This one fight might open the door to many more. Glenn and Maggie running around naked during the fight was pretty amusing too...

Carol surviving her attempted suicide should be very interesting. How will she explain it to everyone else? Will they try to help her or look down on her for trying to take the "easy" way out (while potentially endangering everyone else in the prison when she turned if no one knew she was dead). ? Will they take it out on the new girl, Michonne? All interesting possibilities that I can't wait to see unfold!

I'm surprised to see Allen die so soon. I thought you'd drag this out a little longer so we'd get to see his reaction to Rick trying to save him. I also expected him to live so the group would learn that zombie bites don't kill if treated properly... Apparently, that's not the case though.

I don't know... Allen did lose a lot of blood...

I'm not quite sure what happened with Rick on the last page. Did he just collapse after the beating he took? Did it have anything to do with him shooting Allen? I guess we'll find out next issue...

He collapsed after the fight. The smoking gun is a little misleading.

Glad to hear there's going to be a poster soon. Any word on what that poster will be? Is it going to be one of the covers or something brand new? Or are you going to keep us in suspense by refusing to tell us?

Don't I always choose suspense?

Really looking forward to the next issue. I hope the fact that the aliens are now involved doesn't detract from the book... I really don't know why you revealed Michonne's alien ties in the letters page though. That just seems like bad writing to me...

Have I ever been accused of anything less?

Thanks for all your hard work!

Jim Amato

PS - When are we going to get to see the zombies play volleyball?

Next issue.

Firstly, this will be my 1st comic write-in so get happy. punisher, ghost rider, cyberforce, team 7/ wetworks didn't warrant it, however, your comic has enough motivation for me now...that and a long ass doldrum on and otherwise slow Sunday night. So, long story short, the work you have put out is exceptional, well thought out, and most of all, inspired. SOME POINTS OF ORDER

1. Ever since I was 11 there have been a series of nightmares where zombies and similar imagery perpetuates. This is largely due to an episode one halloween where I watched "night of the living dead" alone, hopped up on sugar, in an old/creaky house with a lot of people wandering the streets at night, etc. etc. Now, at 29, they still persist however due to the advent of a certain psychedelic encounter, otherwise known as freshman year, I can now dream lucidly. Sometimes I get away, sometimes I get nipped, and so forth. Well, I took some initiative during psych and to be brief, they are a metaphor for anxiety concerning time (thanks dr. torrello). Zombies never tire, always pursue, and yada yada yada. This makes for good writing but restless sleep.

2. You've made a very believable microcosm. All zombie films work on this premise, but yours seems feasible. Wanna' say gothic-horror "Moby Dick", but it's more contemporary and believable.

More contemporary than "Moby Dick?" The hell you say!

The problems therein aren't so cliche'. The characters react on a very un-comicbook manner, more adult and complex, so again, well done. Rick in particular is an excellent study. He's the glue, but very few of his "crew" seem to appreciate that he's saved their lives many times over. But they crucify him when something goes wrong. №23 Tyresse is way out of line to be blunt. I would've thought he'd be more unhinged after his daughter and all that though. Glenn/Maggie seem very believable however.

Thanks.

3. The story's sine wave of action/dialogue has pissed off some readers, but it can't be all combat all the time.

I agree.

4. WTF is up with Diamond? I can't get №21 for the life of me and they are unreliable at best. Thoughts?

Well, the issues sell out pretty quickly after they come out. I'd recommend preordering them at your local comic shop.

5.will the origin of the zombie blight be exposed?

No plans.

6. A lot of people talking about a TV series. Such a good idea in terms of budget/acting. a horror- esque Lost? You going to jump on that or what?

Pretty much out of my hands. I'd certainly love for there to be one.

7. Your realism is incredible. ex)frozen zombies in the sub developement. Very imaginative. The scene where the snow falls off the gate to reveal the sign was a masterpeice of suspension as well. classy...

Thanks.

8.lastly (pressed for time and must go), are they going to make probing raids out of the prison to find more survivors, kill zombies?

Maybe. I don't want to give things away.

Many many thanks and much respect,
Jeff Thompson ("taking it slow" and all that)

Thanks for the letter, Jeff.

Mr. Kirkman,
Thanks for the great comic. After reading the letters section in issue №22 with all of the zombie related questions an unasked question came to my somewhat warped mind: Do the undead who eat the living move their bowels?

Inquiring minds want to know.
Marc Cawiezel

That is currently unknown. It has to go SOMEWHERE though... but I would guess their bodies aren't working well enough for any kind of digestion to occur. Just for the sake of whatever... I'm just going to assume their bodies are so toxic they dissolve whatever they eat. Another thing is that most zombies really aren't getting to eat that much in their lifespan. A chunk here, a chunk there. It's not like they're constantly eating after the initial craziness.

Hey,
Walking Dead has officially become Loitering Snooze. Dance with who brought you... zombies... remember? Soap operatic tripe may have its place, but hardly in a medium with the visual potential of comics. So much promise squandered so abruptly.

Blecch!

-Joe

There will be plenty of action and gore to keep the manly men happy. Stick with it. If you'll excuse me, now... I've got a bear to kill.

I think this is the time when people stop talking about how great this awesome new comic book is and start wondering when it'll jump the shark. (Or have they already? I usually only gloss over the vast, endless letters page each issue contains) Anyways, not yet. At least in my book.

I'm sure a couple of people have complained about the lack of zombies in the past couple of issues. That doesn't bug me much. Walking Dead always seemed more focused on the characters and how they changed and adapted and grew in a world infested by undead cannibals. The long stretch in the prison illustrates this with more conviction than the rest of the title's lifespan so far.

The stint in the prison is a good example of the "let's hole ourselves up while the hungry zombies fester outside" aspect of most zombie cinema. In retrospect, I'm surprised "abandoned prison" wasn't used before "shopping mall", "military base", "fortified city", or "police station" were. It seems so obvious now, which is a trademark of good writing.

I'm glad this seems to be the end of that and the beginning of something new though. The prison train took you about as far as it could go and it's cool that some federals will be making their way to the book. I knew you were going to do that the second Rick began his big speech about how nobody was coming. Of course, the "big speech" is an old horror movie cliche, but your execution of it made it seem more like an homage than a retread back to the well.

The art is still solid. Sometimes the characters are hard to distinguish from each other, which was never the case when Tony Moore was on the job. Still, Adlard and Rathburn are growing as artists. I really like their experimentation with graywash in this issue. The tones have never looked better.

Anyways, great work. This is your most fervently loved comic book series for a reason.

Sputnik Jones

Thanks for the kind words, Sputnik.

Dear Mr. Kirkman,

I really enjoy your working on The Walking Dead, Marvel Team-Up, Marvel Knights 2099 and your arc on Captain America. I love how you, like Romero, focus on more of the human side of the zombie stories than just the blood and gore that comes from killing zombies. With that said here are a few questions:

1: We all got to read the Invincible issue of Marvel Team-Up. Which leads me to this: So when is Rick going to show up in Marvel Team- Up and kill zombie with Spider-Man?

Issue 27, most likely.

2: All joking aside now, after reading the "Crossover" arc in Ultimate FF by Mark Millar and Greg Land, I saw that you are writing "Marvel Zombies" and Sean Phillips is doing the art. I am now highly anticipating this mini-series knowing your approach on zombies and knowing that Sean Phillips will deliver with his art. How much did you enjoy doing the mini and are you jealous that Millar came up with the idea first?

I had a blast working on the book. Sean Phillips is a great artist and Arthur Suydam's covers are reason enough to buy the book.

3: What's your favorite zombie flick? Mine is the extended cut of Romero's Dawn of the Dead.

I still haven't watched that... I've still got that DVD sitting on my shelf.

And finally:

4: Have you seen Peter Jackson's "Dead Alive"? If not, you must get your hands on it now. The movie is the goriest I've ever seen and it's so over the top, it make me laugh so hard and just say, "That isn't right."

My dad made Tony Moore and I watch Dead Alive when we were in 8th grade. It changed our lives.

Keep up the good work and I can't wait to read where you take us with the new direction with issue 25.

Dale Varley

You and me both, Dale!

It was recently brought to my attention that I might not be making you smooth cats as aware of my other books as possible. So in an effort to do that I'll be swiping Bendis' style (yeah, again) and running a handy dandy list at the end of these letters columns. Enjoy!

ITEM! Shipping the end of MARCH we'll have INVINCIBLE The Ultimate Collection VOLUME 2. It'll be a nice thick hardcover like the first one. It has issues 14-24 along with #0 and the Free Comic Book Day story and loads of extras. It'll retail for $34.95

ITEM! THE PACT #4 is in stores NOW and has been for a few weeks now. It's written by me, drawn by Jason Howard and features the return of a certain villain from this very book. You don't have to have read issues 1-3 to understand the issue. It's a lot of fun.

ITEM! SUPERPATRIOT: WAR ON TERROR #4 is finally coming out. Sorry for the long delay. It's been resolicited for MARCH and should be in stores toward the end of the month. It's our big finale... it's going to blow doors off--which considering how much time we spent putting the doors ON... should mean something to you.

ITEM! THE WALKING DEAD keeps going strong, if you like horror or people talking, or horrific things happening to people who talk, you'll dig it. Pick it up. Issue 26 should be out around the same time--or on the same DAY as this issue.

ITEM! BATTLE POPE is coming out regularly after a small snag. Issue 5 is on stands now and future issues should be following at a monthly rate, or the fur will fly. It's a fun series, written by me, drawn by Tony Moore & Friends and colors by Val Staples. Ask for it by name.

ITEM! MARVEL TEAM-UP #19 is a kick ass story set in the Marvel Universe from 1991 featuring CABLE and WOLVERINE teaming up to fight THE MANDARIN. It features art be CORY WALKER and CLIFF RATHBURN and is going to be colored by VAL STAPLES. Ask for it by name. It's also a prelude to the big "FREEDOM RING" storyline that runs through Team-Up 20-24 featuring art by ANDY KUHN so pick it up.

ITEM! My second issue of ULTIMATE X-MEN should be out by now. Featuring art by TOM RANEY. It's a blast working on these characters and I'm hoping the fun I'm having shows. I've got a lot of cool stuff planned for my run, so check it out.

ITEM! Unless you've been living under a rock you've heard about MARVEL ZOMBIES my mini-series with SEAN PHILLIPS over at Marvel. The first issue just got a second printing and issue 3 should be on the shelves when this hits so be on the lookout--it's CRAZY FUN.

I think that's all for now.

I'll see you guys back here next month, or earlier. Until then, keep it REAL.

-Robert Kirkman

NÚMERO 26

SALA DE MONTAJE

con Robert Kirkman

TWD 26

TÍTULOS

VOLÚMENES

(5) LA MEJOR DEFENSA
(6) CREADOS PARA SUFRIR
(7) LO QUE MÁS QUEREMOS
(8) ESTA TRISTE VIDA
(9)

(1) ¡ATAQUE ZOMBI!
(2) MUERTE DE ZOMBI -- MÁS HELICÓPTERO.
(3) HABLAN -- ¿A DÓNDE VA? ¿ES MILITAR?
(4) ¿VA A ATERRIZAR? NO -- ¡A ESTRELLARSE!
(5) TYREESE CON EL MARTILLO EN PRIMER PLANO ¿HAS VISTO ESO? ¿EL QUÉ? ¿HELICÓPTERO? NO JODAS! ¿DÓNDE?
(6) VAN A LA PUERTA A BUSCAR A MICHONNE -- SE MARCHAN.
(7) LORI + CAROL... ¿TE VAS A MUDAR? NO. ¿POR QUÉ NO? ESTARÍAS MÁS CERCA DE LA BIBLIOTECA.
(8)
(9)
(10) EL CAMINO VA EN UNA DIRECCIÓN -- EL HUMO EN OTRA.
(11)
(12) ACCIDENTE DE COCHE.
(13) DALE + ANDREA HABLAN CON LOS GEMELOS.
(14) CAMINANDO POR EL BOSQUE.
(15)
(16)
(17)
(18) CAROL + LORI.
(19) PROPOSICIÓN DE CAROL. LORI ESTUPEFACTA -- ÚLTIMO PANEL.
(20) LLEGAN AL LUGAR DEL ACCIDENTE.
(21)
(22) ¡ALGUIEN SE LOS LLEVÓ. ¡ALGUIEN QUE ESTABA MÁS CERCA QUE NOSOTROS.

PRÓXIMO NÚM -- GLENN, ¿QUÉ? ¿QUÉ OPINÁIS?
RICK: ¿CUÁNTO TIEMPO TARDAMOS EN LLEGAR HASTA AQUÍ?
MICH: CINCO -- ¿PUEDE QUE SEIS HORAS?
NOAH - PRESIDENTE DE LA CIUDAD.

Para empezar, vamos a cubrir los títulos de los volúmenes de la parte superior derecha. La regla para los títulos de los volúmenes era que debían constar de tres palabras y tenían que sonar pretenciosos. O en verdad... tenían que parecerme pretenciosos a MÍ. Lo cual no es un listón muy alto, supongo. Está claro que no se utilizaron todos, y tampoco se utilizaron en este orden. Creo que los apunté según me vinieron a la mente muy rápido. Por lo que no es que los acontecimientos del Volumen 8: Creados Para Sufrir originalmente estuvieran planeados para que así ocurrieran en el Volumen 6. Es solo que pensé que podrían servir para el Volumen 6 cuando se me ocurrió.

Sigo sin creerme que jamás utilizara Lo Que Más Adoramos. Tío... ese habría sido uno bueno.

Carol sugiere una nueva relación poliamorosa entre ella, Rick y Lori en este número. Echando la vista atrás, creo que es desternillante ver cómo lo convertí en un mini final abierto. Aun así, creo que siento la necesidad de reconocer que estaba utilizando la sugerencia para mostrar que Carol estaba perdiendo el control durante el apocalipsis zombi, cada vez más desesperada por tener compañía y sugiriendo cosas que en otras circunstancias no sugeriría. Pero no pretendo ridiculizar ese estilo de vida o burlarme de él. Espero que quede claro, pero nunca se sabe.

No hay grandes revelaciones en este número. Lo siento, no todos pueden ser como el número pasado. Creo que la más importante a señalar es pequeña en la parte inferior de la página. "Noah - Presidente de la Ciudad." ¡Mirad ese... proto-Gobernador de ahí! ¿Originalmente se llamaba Noah? ¿Qué pasa conmigo y los nombres bíblicos? Soy muy raro. En fin, está claro que no me había decidido por "El Gobernador " todavía, aunque iba a debutar en el número siguiente.

Sinceramente, nunca le he dado mucha importancia a los nombres de los personajes. A veces lanzo un nombre comodín mientras escribo un guion y luego lo cambio al revisar la rotulación cuando el dibujo está terminado. Y a veces mantengo lo que iba a ser un nombre temporal porque ya me he acostumbrado a él. Cuando empecé, me limitaba a sacar nombres al azar de mi pasado. "Oh, Glenn, ese nombre mola." El primer Glenn que conocí era un crío con el que jugaba al béisbol para niños. Lori era una niña que conocí en segundo de primaria. ¡No se puede ser propietario de un nombre! ¿Verdad? Da igual. Al cabo del tiempo, me quedé sin nombres de mi infancia y empecé a utilizar la bandeja de correo no deseado de mi email. ¡Había muchos nombres aleatorios para usar! Fue de gran utilidad.

En fin, nombres. Soy muy vago.

NOTAS DE PÁGINA:

1: Iba a empezar con un ataque zombi. Decidí darnos otra página de observar el helicóptero para que el ataque zombi estuviera en el paso de página de la página 2. ¡Eso hace que las cosas sean más sorprendentes! ¡Cómics!

5: Diálogo de Tyreese. Empiezo a notar que mis abreviaciones de diálogos en las tramas a menudo son mejores que las frases sobrescritas y reforzadas por las que opté en el guion. "¿Helicóptero? ¡No jodas! ¿Dónde? Es mucho mejor que: "¿Un helicóptero? ¡No jodas! ¿Era militar?" En mi defensa, quería hacer bastante hincapié en la especulación del helicóptero militar para que la gente creyera que los militares podrían llegar a jugar un papel importante en el cómic. Pero aun así...

6 & 7: Claramente amplié esta escena un poco más de lo que tenía previsto ahí. Básicamente, les hice hablar más.

8 & 9: ¡Páginas en blanco! Sabía lo que iba a hacer aquí y estaba listo para meterme con el guion. No sentí la necesidad de escribir "están en el camino" porque sabía que la pagina 10 era una revelación de paso de página de que ya no podían seguir el camino. Así que estas dos páginas TENÍAN que ser ellos en el camino.

12. 11: Aquí pasa lo mismo. Pagina 12: Accidente de coche. Muy bien... así que para la pagina 11 tienen que ir con el coche campo a través.

14-17: "Caminando por el bosque" no abarca exactamente lo que pasa aquí, pero era suficiente para que me hiciera una idea. A veces pienso en escenas completas en la etapa de guion. Apuesto que en aquel momento estaba pensando, "Vendría bien un ataque zombi en este punto y ese paso de página de la página 16 está ahí pidiendo que pase algo."

18 & 19: Bastante claro.

22: ¿En serio tenía que agregar, "Quienesquiera que estuvieran en el helicóptero"? O sea, tengo la sensación de que habría sido más fácil de leer sin eso. Y fijaos, escribí mal "alguien" en la trama. Tío... ¡Soy un desastre sin el corrector ortográfico! Mirad, en mi defensa, ¡escribo rápido!

En la parte inferior: Aparte de la mención del bueno de Noah de ahí, hay un montón de diálogos sugeridos para el próximo número. Hago esto de vez en cuando si tengo una idea clara de lo que sigue al final abierto de un número. Pero lo curioso es que... no sé por qué no empiezo con la trama del siguiente número. A veces lo hago, pero otras veces empiezo al final de la trama anterior como esta vez. ¡Lo mejor es que suelen ser consecutivas, así que lo único que tengo que hacer es darle la vuelta a la hoja de papel! Qué sé yo... hago cosas raras. No puedo explicarlo.

¡¡Gracias por leer!!

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¡NO QUEREMOS DISPARAROS POR ACCIDENTE!"

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NÚMERO 27

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